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Summary record of the 37th meeting
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Chairman: Ms. Wairatpanij (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Thailand)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Ms. McLurg

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Completion of the work of the Fifth Committee at the second part of the resumed sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly

In the absence of Mr. Maurer (Switzerland), Ms. Wairatpanij (Thailand), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Agenda item 129: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.39)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.39: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

1. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.39 was adopted.*

Agenda item 146: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/18; A/C.5/64/L.54, L.55 and L.57)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.57: Cross-cutting issues

2. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.57 was adopted.*

3. **Ms. Ureña** (Costa Rica) applauded the adoption of the first cross-cutting draft resolution on peacekeeping operations in a number of years. It was especially laudable that the Fifth Committee continued to promote measures against sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations personnel. Such cases were not a matter of mere misconduct; they constituted offences under national legislation and violations of international human rights law. Peacekeeping operations were often the principal guarantors of the well-being, indeed the survival, of millions of people around the world. It was intolerable for individuals who had a mandate to improve people's living conditions — particularly those of women and girls — to instead become sexual aggressors against them. She urged the Committee to continue building the capacity to strengthen investigations, implement disciplinary measures and assist victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

4. **Mr. Soomro** (Pakistan) welcomed the decision to increase the level of death and disability compensation for peacekeepers and said that such compensation should be further adjusted in the future to account for inflation. His delegation hoped that the Secretary-General would address comprehensively the related issues raised by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/276, including the question of delays in the settlement of claims.

5. It was his delegation's understanding that, under paragraph 6 of the draft resolution just adopted, death and disability compensation would be awarded to all uniformed personnel in the event of loss of life or injury during the entire period of their deployment on a United Nations mission, except in cases of wilful neglect or self-inflicted injury.

6. The progress made on the global field support strategy, which would significantly improve service delivery to peacekeeping missions in the start-up and expansion phases, was particularly important for troop-contributing countries. The designation of Entebbe as a family duty station would help achieve the objectives of the regional service centre approach to peacekeeping support, since it would help to attract and retain staff to perform support functions in what was to be the first regional service centre. He welcomed the initiative by the leadership of the Department of Field Support to engage in formal consultations with troop-contributing countries, as the primary users of support services, on the further refinement of concepts and the implementation of the global field support strategy.

7. Greater representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, which was one of the objectives of human resources management policy at the United Nations, would establish better coherence between those who directed and commanded operations and the human resources on the ground. He hoped that future overview reports would reflect the achievements of that policy and the efforts made to improve such representation.

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.54: Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

8. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.54 was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.55: Support account for peacekeeping operations

9. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.55 was adopted.*

Oral draft decision: Closed peacekeeping missions

10. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee) read out the following oral draft decision:

"*The General Assembly*,

"(a) *Decides* to return the amount of 291,900 United States dollars, reflecting two

thirds of the adjusted net credits available in the account of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission, to the Government of Kuwait;

"(b) *Also decides* to continue to consider the updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions during its sixty-fifth session."

11. *The draft decision was adopted.*

Note by the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (A/C.5/64/18)

12. **Mr. Yamazaki** (Controller), introducing the note by the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (A/C.5/64/18), said that, in accordance with the prorating procedures approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/221 B, the annex to the note reflected the resources to be approved by the General Assembly in respect of each peacekeeping mission, including the prorated shares of the support account and of the Logistics Base. The annex also included actions to be taken with respect to the financing of the United Nations Office to the African Union.

13. **The Chairman** said she took it that the Committee wished to take note of the information contained in the note by the Secretary-General.

14. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 147: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.37)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.37: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

15. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.37 was adopted.*

Agenda item 148: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.42)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.42: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

16. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.42 was adopted.*

Agenda item 149: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.43)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.43: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

17. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.43 was adopted.*

Agenda item 150: Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.44)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.44: Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

18. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.44 was adopted.*

Agenda item 152: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.45)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.45: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

19. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.45 was adopted.*

Agenda item 153: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.38)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.38: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

20. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.38 was adopted.*

Agenda item 155: Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.46)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.46: Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

21. **Mr. Orina** (Kenya) said that it was the understanding of the Committee that the decision on the commitment authority set out in the draft resolution was without prejudice to any further review of requirements during the Committee's consideration of the full budget proposal for the Mission.

22. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.46 was adopted.*

Agenda item 156: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.47)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.47: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

23. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.47 was adopted.*

Agenda item 157: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.48)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.48: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

24. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.48 was adopted.*

Agenda item 158: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (*continued*)

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.41)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.41: Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

25. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.41 was adopted.*

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.40)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.40: Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

26. **Mr. Abelian** (Secretary of the Committee) introduced a number of oral amendments to the text of the draft resolution.

27. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that a single recorded vote had been requested on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 16 of the draft resolution.

28. **Ms. Davidovich** (Israel), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that her Government's political and financial contributions to peacekeeping operations demonstrated its commitment to the goals and values of such operations. Her delegation was disappointed that the resolution currently before the Committee contained politicized language that was unhelpful to United Nations peacekeeping and had no place in such a resolution. The proposed paragraphs were intended to institutionalize an anti-Israel narrative in the United Nations. Regrettably, they marred the atmosphere of professionalism, good relations and consensus-building that usually prevailed in the Fifth Committee, and were not in keeping with the technical nature of the Committee. She called on other delegations to express their disapproval by voting against the draft resolution.

29. **Mr. Melrose** (United States of America) said that his Government strongly supported the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and its mandate. It was inappropriate, however, to use a financing resolution to make a political point and thus to politicize the deliberations of the Fifth Committee. His delegation would therefore vote against the draft resolution.

30. **Mr. Khachab** (Lebanon) said that his delegation appreciated the sacrifices that had been made by UNIFIL personnel since the Force's establishment and paid tribute to the good coordination between the Force and the Lebanese army.

31. The principle of collective responsibility for the costs of peacekeeping operations did not run counter to international law regarding the separate responsibility of each State for the consequences of its acts, including the obligation to make material compensation for wrongful acts. That principle was enshrined in the Charter and implied in paragraph 1 (e) of General Assembly resolution 55/235.

32. Israel had failed to comply with General Assembly resolutions calling upon it to pay compensation for its bombardment of the peacekeeping post at Qana in 1996, which had destroyed the post and killed and injured civilians. Israel should pay compensation, just as it had done following its bombardment of schools operated in Gaza by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Consequently, his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

33. *A single recorded vote was taken on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 16 of the draft resolution.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran

(Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, New Zealand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

34. *The fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 16 of draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.40 were adopted by 81 votes to 6, with 47 abstentions.*

35. *A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as a whole, as orally amended.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Chad, Côte d'Ivoire.

36. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.40 as a whole, as orally amended, was adopted by 132 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.*

37. **Mr. Peralta-Momparler** (Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Union; the candidate countries Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; the stabilization and association process countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; and, in addition, Iceland, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that the States members of the European Union were concerned by the lack of consensus on the draft resolution and by the politicization of the Fifth Committee's work. The European Union had abstained during the vote on the fourth preambular paragraph and paragraphs 4, 5 and 16 in the conviction that those paragraphs were inappropriate in a draft resolution pertaining to financing. The General Assembly had discussed the events at Qana and had adopted

resolution 50/22 C, at which time the European Union had stated its opinion on the matter.

38. While the European Union held that the deliberations of the Fifth Committee should be restricted to issues of financing, it had nevertheless voted in favour of the draft resolution because it provided for the financing required to maintain UNIFIL.

Agenda item 159: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.49)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.49: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan

39. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.49 was adopted.*

Agenda item 160: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.50)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.50: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

40. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.50 was adopted.*

Agenda item 161: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.51)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.51: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

41. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.51 was adopted.*

Agenda item 162: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.52)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.52: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad

42. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.52 was adopted.*

Agenda item 163: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.53)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.53: Financing of support of the African Union Mission in Somalia

43. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.53 was adopted.*

Agenda item 132: Programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (*continued*)

Agenda item 146: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (*continued*)

Agenda item 161: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (*continued*)

Agenda item 163: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) (*continued*)

Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.58: Financing of the United Nations Office to the African Union

44. *Draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.58 was adopted.*

Agenda item 130: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/64/L.56)

Draft decision A/C.5/64/L.56: Questions deferred for future consideration

45. *Draft decision A/C.5/64/L.56 was adopted.*

46. **The Chairman** said it was the understanding of the Committee that, in addition, agenda item 154, Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, would be considered at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and would be included in the provisional agenda of that session based on the relevant rules of the Assembly.

Completion of the work of the Fifth Committee at the second part of the resumed sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly

47. **Ms. Malcorra** (Under-Secretary-General for Field Support) said that the draft resolutions just adopted concerned peacekeeping budgets and decisions that would be critical to the implementation of United Nations peacekeeping mandates in the coming year. All those who worked in peacekeeping had become keenly aware of the dynamic nature of their endeavours, the changing environments in which they operated and the evolving nature of Security Council peacekeeping mandates. That being the case, subject to Security Council decisions, it might be necessary for the Secretary-General to submit revised peacekeeping budget requests to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fifth session.

48. The establishment of the United Nations Office to the African Union would consolidate and integrate United Nations peace and security functions already in place in Addis Ababa and would strengthen the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union.

49. The consensus reached on cross-cutting issues, for the first time in three years, was a major accomplishment. The draft resolution, which included a provision to increase compensation for death and disability and requests to improve the utilization of air assets and the budget presentation, would provide direction on the management of all peacekeeping operations. The Secretariat took the Committee's guidance very seriously and would do its utmost to make the requested improvements.

50. The Committee had also approved the global field support strategy. The Secretariat had listened carefully to the Member States and had noted, in particular, their request for regular communication with respect to the strategy. She understood the importance of clear lines of accountability and an appropriate division of labour between staff in the field and staff at Headquarters. Her team had begun mapping out an implementation plan and would consult with Member States continuously as a first step. A workshop would be conducted soon with members of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations to ensure that the views of troop-contributing countries on the role of modules in the swift and effective deployment of troops to missions were considered. The global field support strategy would succeed only with strong support from Member States. She was mindful of the trust they placed in the Department of Field Support and assured them of her commitment to interact with them throughout its implementation.

51. In closing, she paid tribute to those who had lost their lives working in the cause of peace. Their numbers had been especially high in the current year among both uniformed and civilian personnel.

52. **Mr. Al-Shahari** (Yemen), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that cross-cutting issues in peacekeeping operations must be given constant attention, as they were of critical importance to Member States, and particularly to troop-contributing countries. He reiterated the Group's understanding that, under paragraph 6 of the draft resolution on cross-cutting issues (A/C.5/64/L.57), death and disability compensation would be awarded to all uniformed personnel for loss of life or injury in the service of the United Nations during the entire period of their deployment, except in cases of wilful neglect or self-inflicted injury, as provided for in the rules.

53. It was also the Group's understanding that any reduction approved by the General Assembly in appropriations for the budgets of specific peacekeeping missions would not entail a reduction in the resources for quick-impact projects in those missions.

54. Welcoming the decision to establish the first regional service centre at Entebbe, he stressed that designating the centre as a family duty station would help address high vacancy rates by giving staff members a greater sense of stability and security.

55. The global field support strategy was a major initiative that would significantly improve service delivery to peacekeeping missions in the start-up and expansion phases. He urged the Secretary-General to consult extensively with Member States — in particular with troop-contributing countries, which were the primary users of support services — as the strategy was developed and implemented.

56. **Mr. Peralta-Momparler** (Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Union; the candidate country Croatia; the stabilization and association process countries Albania and Montenegro; and, in addition, Armenia, Georgia, Iceland, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that the European Union was satisfied that the peacekeeping budget levels agreed upon provided the necessary resources for the various peacekeeping operations to implement their mandates, and also took into account the requirement of effective and efficient management of the Organization, as well as the financial constraints faced by Member States in the current economic situation.

57. The European Union welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution on cross-cutting issues (A/C.5/64/L.57) and the important consensus agreements reached on major components of the global field support strategy, including recognition of the primary role of the global service centre at Brindisi for implementing the concept of modularization; establishment of a regional service centre at Entebbe, which would allow further development of the Transportation and Movements Integrated Control Centre; and modification of the funding mechanisms for mission start-up operations. The strategy would

entail a major transformation of service delivery and support for peacekeeping operations.

58. The European Union was deeply disappointed that, for the seventh consecutive year, no agreement had been reached on the return of cash balances retained in the accounts of closed peacekeeping operations. Those balances should be returned to Member States without conditions, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Organization. The Secretariat's responses regarding the legal basis for retaining such funds were not convincing. Furthermore, the question of liabilities owed to Member States in respect of closed peacekeeping operations with cash deficits should not be resolved at the expense of the vast majority of Member States that had paid their contributions in full. The Union therefore called on all Member States to fully assume their responsibilities and pay their outstanding contributions without further delay. In the case of closed peacekeeping operations with accounts reflecting cash surpluses, it might consider taking appropriate action to ensure that those funds were duly returned to Member States.

59. The current session had produced positive results, and negotiations had been conducted in a constructive spirit. However, the Committee should consider how to improve its time management so that future sessions could be concluded within the agreed time frames.

60. **Mr. Coffi** (Côte d'Ivoire), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, recalled that, at the start of the current session, the Group had reaffirmed the Charter obligation to fund peacekeeping operations and had voiced its strong opposition to package deals, which often entailed across-the-board cuts and risked undermining the effective execution of peacekeeping mandates. It therefore noted with appreciation that the peacekeeping budget decisions taken at the current session had largely been based on the merits of each individual proposal. It urged Member States to commit to that approach in future negotiations.

61. The failure to conclude the second part of the resumed session within the scheduled time frame in both the current and the previous year was a regrettable trend that the Group strongly discouraged. However, it welcomed the consensus obtained on such important issues as the United Nations peacekeeping budgets and the draft resolution on cross-cutting issues (A/C.5/64/L.57), and was committed to ensuring that the objectives of the global field support strategy were met. The Group also welcomed the agreements reached regarding the United Nations Office to the African Union, which was of utmost importance to the Group. By integrating its various entities in Addis Ababa, the United Nations would be able to develop a more effective partnership with the African Union in addressing peace and security issues.

62. **Ms. Pakarati** (Chile), speaking on behalf of the Rio Group, welcomed the constructive spirit in which the draft resolution on the financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (A/C.5/64/L.46) had been adopted. By granting the request for a commitment authority of $380 million for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2010, Member States had clearly demonstrated the international community's continued support for the Government and people of Haiti in the still very difficult situation they faced. The resources made available were essential for recovery, reconstruction and stabilization efforts in Haiti.

63. The adoption of the draft resolution on cross-cutting issues (A/C.5/64/L.57) was an important achievement. The Group particularly welcomed the fact that the Member States, after long and difficult negotiations, had been able to reach a satisfactory consensus on the global field support strategy, which could significantly improve the way in which services were deployed to peacekeeping operations in the field.

64. **Mr. Sugiyama** (Japan) reiterated the need for efficient, effective and accountable management of peacekeeping operations, particularly in view of the substantial peacekeeping budget resources approved at the current session. Efficiency savings and better human resources management could produce significant cost savings. Recalling that the Governments of Member States, including his own, faced difficult fiscal situations and were therefore having to make serious efforts to cut expenditure without compromising the quality of their services, he urged the Secretariat to adopt the same approach.

65. His delegation welcomed the adoption of a draft resolution on cross-cutting issues, for the first time in three years, as a result of lengthy negotiations that had successfully bridged the differences in the positions of Member States. The resolution would provide useful guidance on enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in the management of peacekeeping operations. In particular, the global field support strategy, which had

the potential to improve the timeliness, efficiency and quality of service delivery to field operations, and achieve economies of scale, represented a major step forward. His delegation requested that the Secretary-General should submit to the General Assembly a progress report that included specific information on achievements, including efficiency gains, and measures for consideration or review, taking into account the discussions at the current session.

66. While the session had been successfully concluded thanks to the flexible and constructive spirit shown by Member States, his delegation was disappointed that the discussion on closed peacekeeping missions had been deferred, and that the Committee had failed to conclude the session within the agreed time frame, despite an improvement in the timely issuance of documentation. His delegation was convinced that if Member States had distinguished more clearly between time-bound and non-time-bound issues and had established better and more flexible priorities, the session could have been concluded on time. It was challenging for the Committee to consider a large number of budgets for peacekeeping operations and support functions, together with broad and difficult cross-cutting issues, in the four weeks of conference resources allotted for the second part of the resumed session. Ways of resolving that problem should therefore be seriously explored. One possible solution, suggested by his delegation the previous year, would be to consider cross-cutting issues and the support account, respectively, in alternate years.

67. Recognizing the significant implications of General Assembly resolution 63/250 for civilian personnel in peacekeeping operations, his delegation asked the Secretary-General to provide comprehensive and timely information on the impact of that resolution, in order to facilitate its consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

68. **Mr. El Shinawy** (Egypt) said that a number of lessons could be learned from the second part of the resumed session, which had been successfully concluded. In particular, the Secretariat must continue to issue documents in a timely manner, while the Committee should in future ensure that it concluded its work within the agreed time frame. Peacekeeping operations must be provided with the resources they needed to implement their mandates successfully, without linkages to other items under consideration.

69. The global field support strategy should be implemented in close consultation with Member States, especially troop-contributing countries. Lastly, it was inappropriate to continue deferring the issue of cash balances retained in the accounts of closed peacekeeping missions. An equitable solution must be found, both for accounts reflecting cash surpluses and for those with cash deficits. His delegation therefore called on all Member States to pay their outstanding contributions as soon as possible, especially in respect of those closed peacekeeping missions whose accounts reflected cash deficits.

70. **Mr.** Manjeev **Puri** (India) said that his delegation welcomed the Committee's adoption of a resolution on cross-cutting issues for the first time in three years. India attached the highest priority to such issues, in view of their impact on peacekeeping operations, especially the welfare and safety of peacekeeping troops.

71. Having long believed that peacekeeping field support required a greater client orientation and the deeper engagement of troop-contributing countries, his delegation particularly welcomed the global field support strategy, which recognized the need for better and more efficient service delivery to peacekeeping operations. He looked forward to detailed consultations with the Secretariat on the further development and implementation of that strategy, in line with the decisions taken by the General Assembly, and noted the importance of ensuring that all significant stakeholders, particularly the primary end-users of the services, were comfortable with the implementation process.

72. His delegation welcomed the Committee's long overdue decision to increase death and disability compensation for uniformed personnel. It was almost incomprehensible that the rate of compensation had not been revised for nearly two decades. It was his delegation's understanding that death and disability compensation would be awarded to all uniformed personnel for loss of life or injury during the entire period of their deployment, except as specified in General Assembly resolution 52/177. Compensation rates should also be periodically discussed and reviewed by the Committee to ensure that uniformed personnel who worked in dangerous situations in order to uphold the ideals of the United Nations did not have to wait another two decades before the rates were adjusted again. The safety, security and welfare of

United Nations peacekeepers was paramount and an issue of critical concern to troop-contributing countries. His delegation paid tribute to all United Nations peacekeepers and their families, particularly those who had lost their lives in the cause of global peace and security.

73. After an exchange of courtesies in which **Mr. Mir** (United Kingdom), **Mr. Diab** (Syrian Arab Republic), **Mr. Melrose** (United States of America), **Mr. Rosales Díaz** (Nicaragua) and **Mr. Råsbrant** (Sweden) took part, the **Chairman** declared that the Fifth Committee had completed its work at the second part of the resumed sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.